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**BROOKLYN OFFICE** 

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

WB MUSIC CORP., SPREAD YOUR CHEEKS AND PUSH OUT THE MUSIC, AIN'T NOTHING BUT FUNKIN' MUSIC, MUSIC OF WINDSWEPT, BLOTTER MUSIC, ELVIS MAMBO MUSIC, SONS OF K'OSS MUSIC, INC., TVT MUSIC ENTERPRISES, LLC, 50 CENT MUSIC, COLGEMS-EMI MUSIC INC., JAY E'S BASEMENT, UNIVERSAL MUSIC CORP., UNIVERSAL MUSIC MGB SONGS, JACKIE FROST MUSIC, SUPER SUPA SONGS, AEROSTATION CORPORATION and STEVEN TYLER D/B/A DEMON OF SCREAMIN' MUSIC PUBLISHING,

Plaintiffs,

٧.

TC QUEENS ENTERTAINMENT CORP., ANASTASIOS TSEMENTZIS and PETER TSEMENTZIS,

Defendants.

CASE NO.

**COMPLAINT** 

09 05 16

MAUSKOPF, J.

J. ORENSTEIN, M.J.

Plaintiffs, by their undersigned attorneys, allege:

1. This is a suit for copyright infringement under Title 17, U.S.C. Jurisdiction of this Court is based upon Title 28, U.S.C., Section 1338(a).

- 2. Plaintiffs allege seven (7) causes of action for copyright infringement based on the Defendants' public performances of copyrighted musical compositions. SCHEDULE A annexed to the Complaint sets forth in summary form the allegations hereinafter made with respect to the Plaintiffs, their copyrighted musical compositions, and Defendants' acts of infringement.
- 3. Plaintiffs named in Column 2 (all references to columns are to columns in SCHEDULE A) are the owners of the copyrights in the works listed in Column 3, and are properly joined in this complaint under Rule 20, Fed. R. Civ. P.
- 4. Defendant TC Queens Entertainment Corp. is a New York corporation which did at the times hereinafter mentioned and still does own, control, manage, operate and maintain a place of business for public entertainment, accommodation, amusement and refreshment known as Scandals New York, located at 240-03 Queens Plaza North, in Long Island City, in the State of New York.
- 5. Upon information and belief, at all times hereinafter mentioned Defendants
  Anastasios Tsementzis and Peter Tsementzis were and still are Chief Executive
  Officer/Chairman and principal, respectively, of Defendant TC Queens Entertainment Corp., and share joint responsibility for the control, management, operation and maintenance of the affairs of said corporation. The acts hereinafter complained of were done with their active assistance, cooperation, acquiescence and procurement, and they derive financial benefit therefrom.
  - 6. Musical compositions were and are publicly performed at said place of business.
- 7. The original musical compositions listed in Column 3 were created and written by the persons named in Column 4.

- 8. The compositions named in causes of action 1, 2, and 4 through 7 were published on the dates stated in Column 5, and since the dates of publication have been printed and published in strict conformity with Title 17, U.S.C.
- 9. The composition named in cause of action 3 was registered as an unpublished composition on the date stated in Column 5.
- 10. The Plaintiffs named in each cause of action, including their predecessors in interest, if any, complied in all respects with Title 17, U.S.C., and secured the exclusive rights and privileges in and to the copyright of each composition listed in Column 3, and received from the Register of Copyrights a Certificate of Registration, identified as set forth in Column 6.
- 11. Defendants on the dates specified in Column 7, and upon information and belief, at other times prior and subsequent thereto, infringed the copyright in each composition named in Column 3 by giving public performances of the compositions on Defendants' premises, for the entertainment and amusement of the patrons attending said premises, and Defendants threaten to continue such infringing performances.
- 12. The performances of the Plaintiffs' copyrighted musical compositions on the dates specified in Column 7 on Defendants' premises were unauthorized: neither Defendants, nor any of the Defendants' agents, servants or employees, nor any performer was licensed by, or otherwise received permission from any Plaintiff or any agent, servant or employee of any Plaintiff to give such performances.
- 13. In undertaking the conduct complained of in this action, Defendants knowingly and intentionally violated Plaintiffs' rights. Defendants' knowledge and intent are established by the following facts:

- (a) For periods prior to October 1, 2006, Defendants held a license agreement from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the performing rights licensing organization of which all Plaintiffs are members. That license agreement authorized public performance of any or all of hundreds of thousands of copyrighted musical compositions in the ASCAP repertory at Scandals New York. In return for their license, Defendants agreed to pay license fees to ASCAP.
- (b) Defendants, however, failed to pay license fees as required by the license agreement, and, as a result, ASCAP duly terminated Defendants' license agreement effective October 1, 2006. Subsequently, ASCAP offered to reinstate Defendants' license if Defendants would pay the license fees owed under the terminated license agreement. Defendants rejected ASCAP's offers.
- (c) Despite repeated reminders of their liability under the United States

  Copyright Law, Defendants have continued to perform copyrighted music without permission

  during the hours that Defendants' establishment is open to the public for business and presenting

  musical entertainment. The many unauthorized performances at Scandals New York include the

  performances of the seven copyrighted musical compositions upon which this action is based.
- 14. At the times of the acts of infringement complained of, the Plaintiff named in each cause of action was the owner of the copyright in the composition therein named.
- 15. The said wrongful acts of the Defendants have caused and are causing great injury to the Plaintiffs, which damage cannot be accurately computed, and unless this Court restrains the Defendants from the further commission of said acts, said Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury, for all of which the said Plaintiffs are without any adequate remedy at law.

## WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray:

- I. That Defendants and all persons acting under the direction, control, permission or authority of Defendants be enjoined and restrained permanently from publicly performing the aforementioned compositions or any of them and from causing or permitting the said compositions to be publicly performed in Defendants' said premises, or in any place owned, controlled or conducted by Defendants, and from aiding or abetting the public performance of such compositions in any such place or otherwise.
- II. That Defendants be decreed to pay such statutory damages as to the Court shall appear just, as specified in 17 U.S.C. § 504(c)(1), namely, not more than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) nor less than Seven Hundred And Fifty Dollars (\$750) in each cause of action herein.

- III. That Defendants be decreed to pay the costs of this action and that a reasonable attorney's fee be allowed as part of the costs.
  - IV. For such other and further relief as may be just and equitable.

DATED: New York, New York February 9, 2009

MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP

Bv:

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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Cause of Action Plaintiff	laintiff	Musical Composition	Writers	Date of Publication	Certificate of Registration Number	Date of Known Infringe-ment
<del>;</del> •	WB MUSIC CORP., SPREAD YOUR CHEEKS AND PUSH OUT THE MUSIC	THE REASON	DOUG ROBB, DANIEL ESTRIN, CHRISS HESSE, MARKKU LAPPALAINEN	12/9/03	PA 1-203-207	12/14/07
Ŋ	WB MUSIC CORP., AIN'T NOTHING BUT FUNKIN' MUSIC, MUSIC OF WINDSWEPT, BLOTTER MUSIC, ELVIS MAMBO MUSIC	IN DA CLUB	CURTIS JAMES JACKSON PYK/A 50 CENT, ANDRE ROMELL YOUNG PYK/A DR. DRE, MICHAEL A. ELIZONDO, JR.	2/6/03	PA 1-147-468	12/14/07
<u>ω</u> -	WB MUSIC CORP. AND SONS OF K'OSS MUSIC, INC.	PUSH IT	HERBY AZOR	REGISTERED 8/22/88	D AS UNPUBLISHED PAU 1-121-490	6/20/08
<u>.</u>	TUT MUSIC ENTERPRISES, LLC, 50 CENT MUSIC	JUST A LIL BIT	SCOTT STORCH, CURTIS JACKSON	3/1/05	PA 1-271-626	6/20/08
Œ	COLGENS-EMI MUSIC	BEAST OF BURDEN	KEITH RICHARDS MICK JAGGER	6/15/78	PA 21-667	6/20/08
<u>\$</u>	JAY E'S BASEMENT, UNIVERSAL MUSIC CORP., UNIVERSAL MUSIC-MGB SONGS, JACKIE FROST MUSIC	m -  -	JASON EPPERSON (PKA "JAY E"), CORNELL HAYNES (PKA "NELLY")	6/6/00	PA 1-009-119	6/20/08

SCHEDULE "A"

7. COLGENS-EMI MUSIC, INC., SUPER SUPA SONGS, AEROSTATION CORPORATION, STEVEN TYLER D/B/A DEMON OF SCREAMIN' MUSIC	Cause of Action Plaintiff	2
PHUK	Musical Composition	w
RICHIE SUPA, STEUEN TYLER AND GLEN BALLARD	Writers Date Pub	5
3/18/97	Date of Publication	
PA 849-817	Certificate of Registration Number	~
6/20/08	Date of Known Infringe- ment	

SCHEDULE "A"